

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, December 16, 2013, 4:30pm, at the Morton Community Center. Present at said meeting were Richard Shockley, Karen Springer, John MacDonald and Aimee Jacobsen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Lee Booth, Chris Foley, Bess Witcosky, Dan Dunten and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Council President, Ann Hunt, also attended. Absent from the meeting were Park Board member Patrick Flannelly and Council members Gerald Thomas and Gerry Keen.

Richard convened the Board at 4:43pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the November 18, 2013 meeting. Karen motioned to approve the minutes. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- n/a

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- Will be attending the IPRA State Conference January 15-17 in Indianapolis.
- Updating the web page and the shelter information.

Parks – Lee reported on the following:

- Inspections
- Erosion work in Happy Hollow Park
- Starting to work on ADA related issues in Cumberland Park and Happy Hollow Park
- Finished repainting benches, now painting file cabinets at the pool
- Organizing the maintenance shop in Happy Hollow Park

Recreation – Chris reported on the following:

- Ice rink opened Friday after Thanksgiving
- Skate with Santa was held during the snow showers on Saturday, Dec. 14. The rink staff worked to keep up with the snowfall. Fifty-one people participated in the Skate with Santa. In addition to ice-skating, they enjoyed hot chocolate, donuts, and made a craft. The weekend turned out to be a busy one for the ice rink.
- The Winter/Spring brochure will be mailed out late this week or early next week. Mail-in registrations will be accepted after the start of the year. Registrations will be kept in post-marked order. Call-in and walk-in registrations will begin on Monday, January 6.
- The first day to reserve shelters will be on January 2.

Morton Center – Bess reported on the following:

- Fall 2013 Enrollments – we have roughly 1,322 enrollments, down slightly compared to Fall 2012. Kids Pottery did not run and only had 2 enrolled vs. 18-20 enrollments previously. A number of our pre-school and young children's activities were canceled due to low enrollment, and those enrollments add up over time. Moving into 2014, we will be approaching programming from a "less is more" point of view.
- Project Snowflake – over a period of two weeks, people that came to Morton were invited to cut a snowflake, or two, during their time there. Our snowflake cutters have ranged in ages from 5 to 95, and have come to Morton to do Karate, Zumba, quilt, play cards and much more. City Hall, the Parks Office, and a variety of other people from in

and around Morton also participated. In an effort to be “Green”, our snowflake paper was reused flyers that were designated as “scrap paper”. The snowflake have been a huge success and even got a write up in the Journal and Courier.

- Donations received for today’s Park Board meeting include the following:

Decorations: Jean Best, Bridge player

Greenery: Mattern’s Pine Ridge Nursery

Food: Tom & Marianne Gaio, Sue Mattern, Bess Witcosky

Stewardship – Dan reported on the following:

Value of Volunteers to West Lafayette

40 adults who volunteer approximately 1,500 hours at the Lilly Nature Center

20 adults serve on the West Lafayette Tree Fund committee and these individuals contributed about 1,050 hours this year.

In addition, others donate their time for some of our other programs. The total value of these two groups of volunteers to the City of West Lafayette and the Parks & Recreation department is over \$40,000.00. These individuals are greatly appreciated and we thank them all for all they do.

Old Business

n/a

New Business

Election of Officers

Joe presented the slate of officers for the Board of Parks & Recreation as follows:

President – Patrick Flannelly

Vice President – Karen Springer

Secretary – Aimee Jacobsen

Aimee motioned to approve the slate of officers as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

2014 Park Board Meeting Dates

Joe presented the list of meeting dates for the 2014 monthly Park Board meetings. Karen motioned to approve the dates as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

West Lafayette Parks & Recreation Foundation Appointment

Joe recommended reappointing Sarah Hubbard for a 2nd term through 2016. Aimee motioned to approve the reappointment. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:

- At a work session last Wednesday, the School Board recognized and congratulated:

- 1) Girls Soccer Team for winning the Girls Class A State Soccer Championship. They are the fifth team in Westside history to win a state championship and the second girls team.
- 2) Amanda Mann, Cumberland Guidance Counselor for being named Guidance Counselor of the Year.
- 3) Happy Hollow Principal, Margaret Psarros for being named District 4 Principal of the Year.
- 4) Cumberland Elementary School for receiving the Gold Award for elementary counseling services.
 - Indiana Department of Education granted us a waiver for the day of school lost on Monday, November 18 due to tornado/power outage. We do not have to make up that day of school, nor will we incur any financial penalty.
 - The first semester ends this Friday and the second semester begins on Monday, January 6.
 - Last Thursday at the Long Center was the premiere of Rise Above the Mark documentary in support of public education. About 950 people attended from all over the state. The documentary is intended to foster discussion on educational reform.

Wabash River

- Richard reported Wabash River Enhancement Corp has purchased more properties on both sides of the river.
- Andy noted the old "Port-A-Potty" site's building is coming down.

Other

Proposed Cleaning Fee

Bess proposed adding a \$50 cleaning fee for any room rental that involves food. Many times when room 106 or 108, both which are carpeted, are rented, it ends up being more difficult to clean them versus the Multipurpose room. Discussion followed. Aimee motioned to approve the additional \$50 cleaning fee to rental groups, when food is involved with the rental space. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

BPR 2-13

Joe presented Resolution BPR 2-13 for transfer of monies between accounts to cover purchased office equipment and office furniture. Aimee motioned to approve the transfers as presented. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Joe thanked Richard for his service with the Park Board and the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation. Discussion followed regarding WREC and allowance of Richard's continuing on the committee.

Pay Claims

Karen motioned for claims to be paid. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Adjourn

Aimee motioned to adjourn the meeting. John seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:06pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary

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